

**POINT PLEASANT ADVISORY COMMITTEE  
MINUTES**

**May 13, 2010**

**PRESENT:** Mr. Duncan Morum, Chair  
Mr. Don Awalt, Vice Chair  
Mr. Murray Wilson  
Ms. Lisa Olie  
Mr. Bernard Badley  
Ms. Janet Kitz  
Mr. Frazer Egerton  
Mr. Harald Norve  
Ms. Kate Greene

**REGRETS:** Councillor Sue Uteck  
Mr. Phillip Read  
Mr. Chris Crowell

**STAFF:** Mr. Stephen Rice, Supervisor of Major Parks  
Mr. Brian Phelan, Supervisor of Parks and Open Spaces  
Mr. Peter Bigelow, Manager of Real Property Planning  
Mr. Tylor McDuff, Legislative Support

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**1. CALL TO ORDER**

The Chair called the meeting to order at 4:31 p.m. at the Superintendent's Building, Point Pleasant Park, Halifax.

The Chair introduced new members Mr. Murray Wilson and Mr. Frazer Egerton to the Committee.

**2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES - April 8, 2010**

**MOVED BY Mr. Norve, seconded by Mr. Badley, that the minutes of April 8, 2010 be approved as presented. MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

**3. APPROVAL OF THE ORDER OF BUSINESS AND APPROVAL OF ADDITIONS AND DELETIONS**

The agenda was approved as presented.

**4. BUSINESS ARISING OUT OF THE MINUTES / STAFF UPDATES**

**4.1 Volunteers in the Park (VIP) Program Update**

The Chair explained the VIP Program for the benefit of new members. He explained that the Program began two years ago under the direction of the Friends of Point Pleasant Park and that the Committee had undertaken to get the Program operating again this year.

The Chair reported that Mr. Ken Hollingham, a Dartmouth business owner, agreed to provide funding to purchase new trees for the park and to recruit volunteers for the labour. The Chair explained that staff needed to decide on what trees would be appropriate and where they would be planted. He added that he was still waiting for a response from staff. Mr. Brian Phelan, Supervisor of Parks and Open Spaces, offered to follow up with Mr. Hollingham.

The Chair added that Pete's Frootique was interested in organizing volunteers to perform necessary labour at the Park. The Chair explained that Mr. Peter Bigelow, Manager of Real Property Planning, had talked with a representative and was waiting for more details.

The Chair reported that Sobey's was having a Manager's Conference in Halifax and that they had expressed an interest in participating in the VIP Program as part of a

team-building exercise.

The Chair indicated that three documents regarding the Program were still available for use as follows:.

- A list of tasks identified by staff and with potential time frames.
- A general description of the VIP Program which was beneficial for promotions and public relations.
- A brochure printed by Ms. Holly Richardson, Coordinator of Real Property Policy.

A discussion arose around promoting the Program and the delays that had shortened the time scale for effective publicity. It was agreed that promoting the Program should be a priority and also noted that the Public Relations plan had been approved by an outside party on behalf of HRM.

The Chair reported that the Program brochure listed the Friends of Point Pleasant Park as contacts. A discussion ensued regarding options and it was decided that placing a sticker over the information was the simplest solution.

For the record, Mr. Badley noted there was a disconnect with staff. He added that items had been put on the agenda for discussion but benefited from very little follow-up or action.

Mr. Stephen Rice, Supervisor of Major Parks, indicated that the only way to get at the VIP Program materials were available through Mr. Bigelow.

Ms. Greene entered the meeting at 4:48 p.m.

#### **4.2 Shilling Ceremony**

The Chair described the Shilling Ceremony for new members of the Committee. He explained that HRM had a 999 year lease on the Park and added that rent was one shilling. He indicated that the Ceremony used to be an annual event which involved handing the shilling to a representative of the Queen. The Chair added that there had not been a Ceremony for a number of years.

The Chair indicated that an invitation for the Lieutenant Governor's Office had been prepared and approved however it had not been signed by himself or the Mayor yet.

A discussion followed regarding inviting the Queen. The Chair reported that Mr.

Christopher McCreary, a staff member with the Lieutenant Governor's office, indicated that the Royal Schedule was determined months in advance.

The Chair explained that the intent was to hold the Ceremony in late-June but, given delays, would need to be pushed back to a date in July. He noted that the date and time needed to be set between the Lieutenant Governor's office and Mayor's office and added that it was good practice to give invitees four weeks notice of an event.

Ms. Greene reported that a list had been compiled of officials to invite to the ceremony. She explained that she worked with Ms. Alisha Bourke to find the names of people currently in those positions. She indicated that some names of previous invitees did not have titles and there was uncertainty around why they had been invited. Ms. Kitz offered to go through the list and identify those people who were no longer available.

The Chair requested that Committee members identify local officials and interested parties who may deserve an invitation and added that contact information would be helpful, as well.

The Chair reported that the Bengal Lancers were interested in performing at the Ceremony. He added that he would confirm with them once a date had been set.

A discussion ensued regarding inviting a bagpiper. The Chair requested that Committee members forward any suggestions and contact information to Mr. Phelan.

Mr. Awalt suggested including a traditional opening prayer. He volunteered to look into potential dignitaries.

Mr. Bigelow indicated that the invitations could be printed using the HRM Print Centre. Ms. Greene and Ms. Kitz volunteered to work with Ms. Bourke regarding the wording of the invitation.

Ms. Kitz added that, contrary to the minutes of April 8, 2010, the Ceremony had continued after amalgamation however was discontinued following Hurricane Juan.

#### **4.3 Staff Update**

Mr. Bigelow reported that he had contacted Pete's Frootique regarding the VIP Program and outlined the various tasks to be done. He added he was waiting to hear back from them while they lined up their staff.

Mr. Bigelow indicated that he would forward the contact information for the Sobey's Conference as it related to their interest in participating in the VIP Program to the

Chair. Mr. Rice indicated that everything would be ready once the group and dates were finalized.

Mr. Bigelow reported on the Urban Trail and how it would impact upon the Park. He explained that the Trail would go around the Peninsula and connect to the Chester Spur Line. He added that the Trail would go down Point Pleasant Drive and into the parking lot while the main route would continue into the Port, connecting to Lower Water Street and the Boardwalk. Mr. Bigelow explained that this phase would not be happening for several years and that the intention was for the road to become a Park road and not a public street. Mr. Bigelow added that the work would involve increasing the width of the curb and would necessitate the removal and replanting of some trees.

The Chair indicated that plans for the Park should be reviewed by Committee.

Mr. Bigelow indicated that information relating to the removal of trees at Fort Ogilvie and the Northwest Arm Battery was available on the HRM website and added he would ensure something was posted in the areas for patrons to read.

Mr. Bigelow explained that staff were negotiating with Parks Canada in an attempt to have some guns returned to the park. He indicated the guns would not be mounted but would add context to cultural areas.

Mr. Bigelow reported that staff were planning work in the Cambridge Battery area. He explained the intent was to remove selective trees from the south-facing embankment and added the new arrangement could work for Shakespeare by the Sea.

Mr. Bigelow reported that the use of the fish tanks had been decided upon and planned out. He explained that Ms. Nicole May, Landscape Architect, was waiting for artwork and replicas. He described the contents of the tanks as falling under five themes: farming and suburban living, military, ecology, artwork, and history of the park.

Mr. Bigelow explained that putting information on both sides of Park signs had been discussed but was a low priority right now.

Mr. Phelan reported that the Helios Outdoor Multigym was presently scheduled for installation and indicated that the unveiling would take place on Friday, May 14, 2010 at 11:00 a.m.

Mr. Phelan indicated that an RFP for canteen services has been signed. He explained that Ms. Janice Tait, who ran two successful businesses in Toronto, would run Black Rock Beach Canteen and the Dingle Canteen. He noted that the projected opening was for Victoria Day weekend with a full menu to follow by June 1, 2010.

Mr. Rice reported that the Park is operating at full capacity with seven staff and added that weekend shifts had begun so garbage would be kept under control.

Mr. Rice noted that the Bluenose Marathon would be on May 23, 2010 in the morning. He added that someone had sprayed kilometre markers on some of the retaining walls in the Park and that staff was trying to identify who was responsible.

Mr. Bigelow reported on a gun exchange between the Park and Parks Canada. He described the gun at Fort Ogilvie as a breech loading gun called a Mark and explained that Parks Canada wanted it returned. He explained that staff were using the gun as leverage to get a cannon. If successful, Parks Canada would loan the cannon and the Park would be responsible for maintenance. He also indicated that Parks Canada wanted to do a media piece around the exchange.

Mr. Bigelow described a meeting with representatives from the Port about the planned work. He explained that some of the work could not be done while the Port was operational and the Port had requested an area be identified that they could use as a marshalling area. Mr. Bigelow indicated that the Port had agreed not to use the marshalling area while the Park's parking lot was being improved. The marshalling area would be close to the seawall and would be required for eighteen months. He added that the increase in capacity for the Port is significant as it would enable two container ships to be docked side-by-side. Mr. Bigelow reported other stipulations included not obstructing access to water and maintaining the Metro Transit turnaround loop. He further noted that the marshalling area would be fenced off.

Mr. Phelan noted that the Canada Winter Games Committee had approached the Park about providing space for parking during the Games. He added that no commitment had been made as to how many spots would be allocated and indicated that February is a low time for Park usage.

**5. CONSIDERATION OF DEFERRED BUSINESS - None**

**6. CORRESPONDENCE, PETITIONS, AND PRESENTATIONS**

**6.1 Correspondence - None**

**6.2 Petitions - None**

**6.3 Presentations - None**

**7. REPORTS - None**

**8. ADDED ITEMS - None**

**9. DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting was scheduled for June 10, 2010 at 4:30 p.m.

**10. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 5:44 p.m.

Tylor McDuff  
Legislative Support